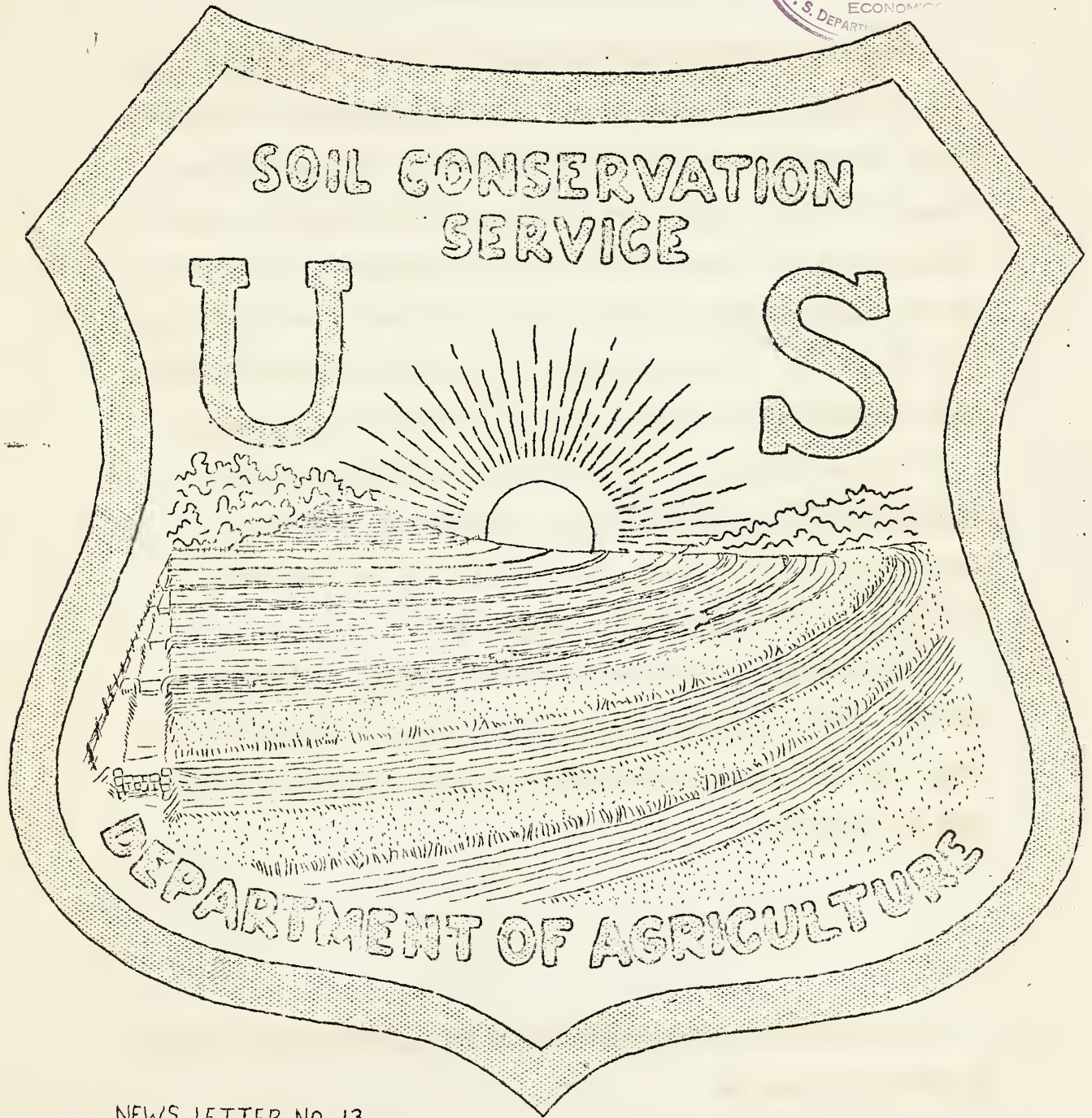


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Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# ELM CREEK NEWS



NEWS LETTER NO. 13  
JUNE, 1935

PROJECT NO. 4  
TEMPLE, TEXAS

*(4100 Copies of this Issue)*

## IMPORTANCE OF TRENCH SILOS

By

Mr. A. W. Hansen, A Cooperator  
in  
The Elm Creek Project

"The strip-cropping program which is being encouraged by the Soil Conservation Service is a very important factor on any man's farm. In addition to conserving moisture and soil, we are encouraged to plant more broadcast crops, which naturally in this section consist of wheat, oats, and the sorghums. It also calls for diversification and when we raise more feed we are confronted with the problem of taking care of it. For the purpose of taking care of additional feed, the trench silo answers the purpose."

"Any person who is feeding livestock is faced with the problem of cheap roughage. Highly concentrated feeds can be raised and stored or bought, but after all the full benefits can be derived only with good cheap roughage."

"My ten years experience in Texas has proven that we need the silo during the summer months more than any other time of the year. The only answer for burnt-up pastures is to have a trench silo in reserve."

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Specifications for construction of trench silos may be found in article on page 4.

LESS THAN A LIFETIME OF ONE MAN

(Conversation of SCS staff member and local farmer)

Q. What do you give as the location of your farm, Mr. H?

A. Four miles west of \_\_\_\_\_, Texas.

Q. When did you move on this farm?

A. In 1897.

Q. Was it in cultivation when you bought it?

A. No. About twenty-five acres of the forty acres I started with were cleared of timber and the stumps had been grubbed, but I made the first crop on it.

Q. What price per acre did you pay for the land?

A. Twenty dollars per acre for the first forty acres. Then later on I bought forty acres more at \$60.00 per acre, making the eighty acres I have now.

Q. Had this additional forty acres been cleared when you bought it?

A. Yes. And had been cultivated one or two years.

Q. What was the average production per acre on this land the first few years it was in cultivation?

A. It was not considered unusual for the land to produce one-half bale of cotton per acre and thirty to thirty-five bushels of corn per acre.

Q. Did you notice a marked decrease in production under the first ten years you were on this farm?

A. I am sure that the production has been less every year right from the start.

Q. What is the average production per acre now -- say on the two crops mentioned a few minutes ago?

A. It takes from 6 to 8 acres to make a bale of cotton and not more than 5 to 8 bushels of corn per acre.

Q. What do you attribute this continued decrease in production to?

A. The washing away of the top soil and to the gullies which have made parts of it impossible to cultivate.

Q. Did you cultivate the land across the slope or with the slope when you started in on this farm?

A. I ran the rows up and down the hill then, just like I am doing now.



Q. Do you think it might have helped save your top soil if you had practiced running the rows across the slope instead of up and down it?

A. Well -- I guess it would some, but that would have made my rows too short going across that way.

Q. How long after you started cultivating the land before these gullies started showing up plainly?

A. They started in a very few years, but they did not give me any trouble much until they were so deep I had trouble getting across some of them with a cultivator. There are some that I have not tried to plow in over fifteen years.

Q. Did you make any attempt to check these gullies while they were forming?

A. Oh yes! I cut trees, trees as large as two good mules could drag and placed them in some of those gullies to catch dirt and stop them.

Q. Was this attempt to stop the gullies satisfactory?

A. No. The first large rain moved them away from where I placed them and finally the trees rotted and moved on down the slope.

Q. Have you ever had an opportunity to sell the farm for as much or more than you gave for it?

A. Yes. Before I built the house I am living in here I was coming back from \_\_\_\_\_ with a load of lumber for the new house, one of my neighbors who had been trying to buy the place came out to the road, stopped me and offered me \$90.00 per acre for the farm. He said he knew he couldn't buy it if I built a new house on it but if I would take the lumber back to town and not build the house he would buy the farm at \$90.00 per acre.

Q. What did you tell him, Mr. H.?

A. I told him I was going to build the house and make it my home. I didn't want to sell it. That was about 25 years ago.

Q. What do you think you could get for the place now if you wanted to sell it?

A. From the way two places adjoining me here sold I guess it would sell about like they did - about \$13.00 per acre.

Q. About how many gullies of more than two feet deep would you say there are on the place now?

A. I guess there must be close to one-hundred-and-fifty and about fifty or more are too deep to cultivate across now.

- Q. All of these gullies cutting up through the fields have reduced your cultivated acreage considerably, has it not, Mr. H?
- A. Yes. I am only trying to work about forty acres out of the 80 acres on the place now.
- Q. What part of the farm comprises this forty acres you are working now?
- A. Just between the washes and down in the flats where it has not washed so badly.
- Q. What do you think could be done to the farm now to help bring it back to a paying basis?
- A. Well, I don't have the money to do anything to it now and even if I did I don't think it could be fixed up for what it is worth or for what it would be worth in a long time.
- Q. Then, you don't plan to do any erosion control work on the farm?
- A. No. I am getting too old to do much work. I have raised six boys and they are all helping me a little now and then I will not be here much longer anyway and when I am gone they can take it and do what they want to with the old place.

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#### SAVING VETCH SEED

Vetch is ready to harvest for seed when most of the pods are ripe and dry.

Cut the vetch with a mower and pile in small pitchfork size piles immediately after it is cut. This will prevent excessive shattering. When the stems, leaves, and remaining pods are completely dry, it can be threshed.

For small fields it can be stomped out or threshed out by hand with a club or flail. After the hay and other coarse material has been pitched off, the leaves and lighter material can be winded out easily.

In the larger fields it may pay to harvest with a threshing machine. Probably all concaves and some of the cylinder teeth should be removed in most cases to prevent seed cracking. The speed of the machine should also be reduced. The experienced separator operator will find very little difficulty in threshing vetch for seed.

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## TRENCH SILOS

For many years the Extension Service has recommended the use of trench silos. In this article, parts of which were taken from the Extension Service Bulletin No. 84 by M. R. Bentley, Extension Agricultural Engineer, the use and construction of the trench silo are discussed.

The outlook for a good feed crop this year has caused considerable interest in the most economical means and methods of storing feed for future use.

For a cheap storage place which is wind proof, fire proof, convenient, and one which may be constructed in a short time, we know of none better than the trench silo.

A silo makes it possible to have the equivalent of green feed when it is too dry or too cold to have green pasture, or too wet to use the pasture. The trench silo is more than a container in which to store surplus feed for use when the drouthy year comes. It can be filled during adverse weather conditions, eliminating the hazards of curing and also the losses from grain shattering when handled in the ordinary way. Another outstanding advantage of the trench silo is the elimination of all insect damage to the stored feed when carried over for several years.

Mr. Frank A. Briggs, Editor of the Farm and Ranch, says: "Construct extra silos, fill them, cover them, and forget them until the day of need appears, and then you need not worry".

### I.

#### Selecting the location for a trench silo.

1. Select a place having possibilities for good water drainage.
2. A low bluff or hillside may afford ease in filling and removing feed from the silo.
3. An old ditch may be used by properly diverting the water from it.
4. Should be conveniently located.
  - a. Close to the feeding barn.
  - b. In pasture where feeding will be done.
  - c. Near water supply to aid in filling.

### II.

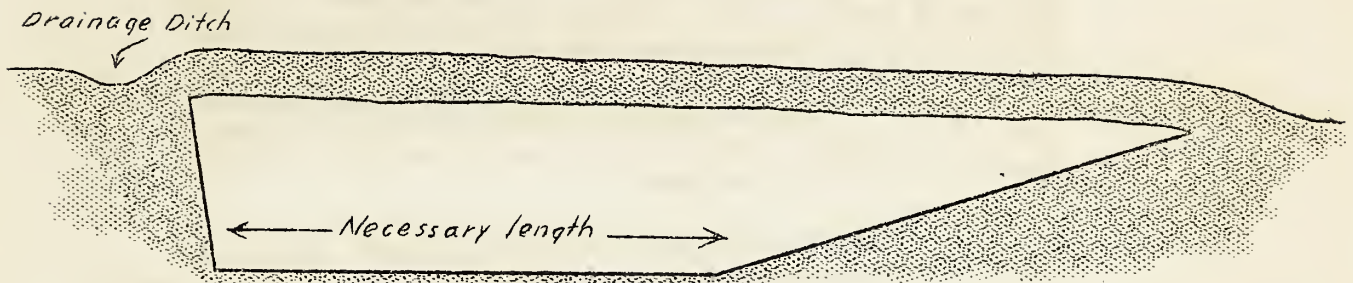
#### Deciding on the width and depth of the silo.

The silo, to insure proper curing, should not be less than five feet in depth. It should be made wide enough and long enough to store sufficient feed to take care of the livestock on the farm.

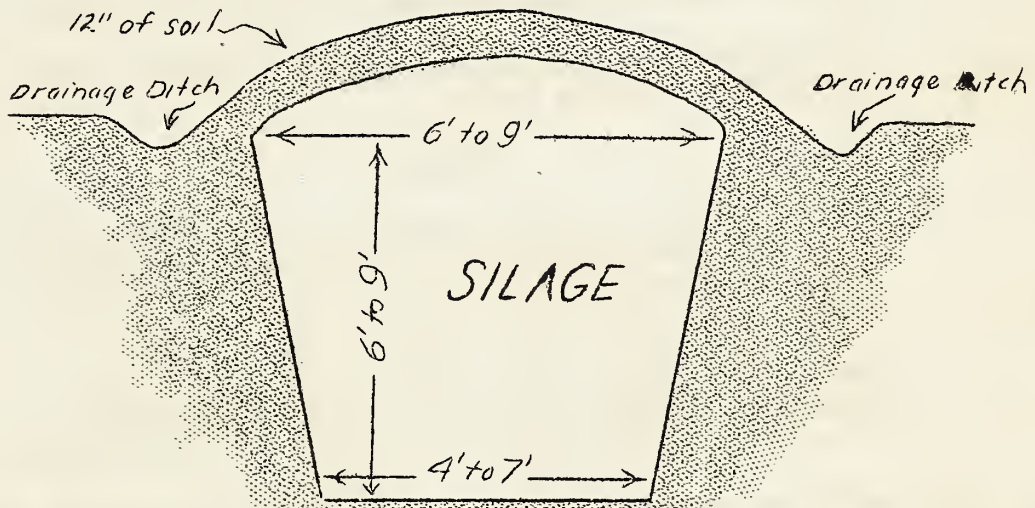
1. Under average conditions a cow will consume about 30 pounds of silage per day.
2. Work stock and half grown animals will consume about 15 pounds per day each.



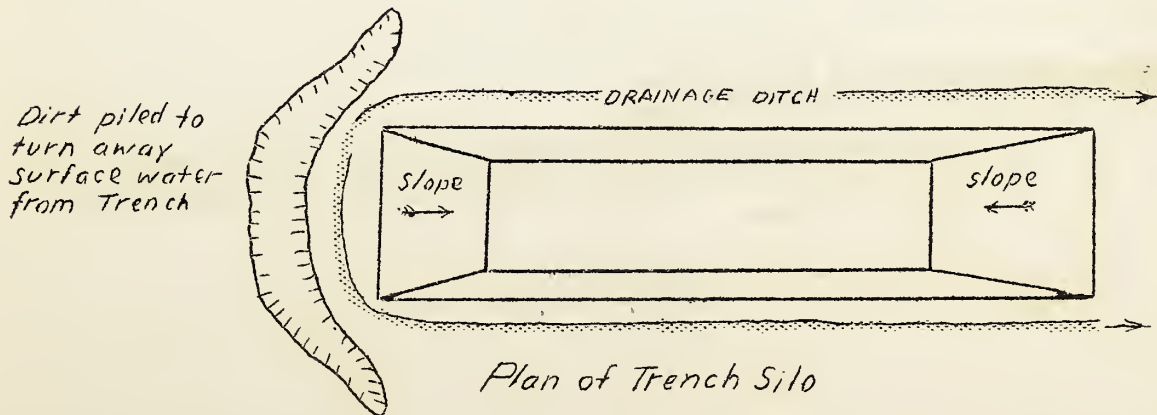
# THE TRENCH SILO



*Longitudinal section of Trench Silo after silage covering has been put on*



*Cross section of Trench Silo after silage covering has been put on*



*Plan of Trench Silo*

#### EXAMPLE

(Determining the proper width)

Assuming a farm has three cows, four horses, and two growing heifers, it would require 180 pounds of ensilage per day to feed these animals. One cubic foot of silage weighs 25 pounds. The ensilage should be removed from the silo in a slice not less than three to four inches thick to prevent spoilage. By taking off a three-inch slice for the above mentioned animals a cross sectional area of 30 square feet would be needed per day to furnish the required ensilage.

To find the average width of the silo, divide the cross sectional area required (30 square feet, three inches thick) by the depth. Assuming a silo depth of six feet.

This would mean an average width of  $(30 \div 6) = 5$  feet. Since the top width should be about two feet wider than the bottom width, the top in this case example would be made six feet wide and the bottom four feet.

The width of the silo for any number of animals can be figured on the above basis.

#### Length

The silo may be made long enough to need a given length of time by dividing the number of days you expect to feed silage by four, if a three-inch slice is cut off each day. In the above example, if silage is to be fed in December, January, February, and August, a total of 120 days, divide 120 by four. This would indicate a trench at least 30 feet long is needed. It would probably be dug 35 feet long to insure plenty.

In summing up the above points: After the cross sectional size is determined, the length may be made to take care of what feed you may have to store. It might also be made deeper and wider by only taking off the two-inch slice per day. Or even better, if the feed is available fill an extra silo for future insurance against high-priced feedstuffs in seasons of scarcity.

#### III.

##### Staking off location of trench silo.

1. Stake the trench parallel with the slope of the land.
2. Run a line and stake off a diversion contour furrow above the silo site.

#### IV.

##### Construction of the Trench Silo.

To dig a trench silo cheaply, a fresno and plow should be used. The plow is needed to loosen the dirt and the fresno to remove it. Picks, mattox, spades, and hoes may be used to cut the walls smooth.

Terracing machines have been found very useful in moving the dirt away from the walls, in the larger silos, so that it is easily picked up in a fresno.

The ends of the trench should be sloped so that a team may be driven down them. As the work proceeds, the upper end of the trench may be made as steep as it is practicable to drive a team down it, while the lower end is not made so steep. The dirt is pulled out the end that is not steep. The trench should be so located that the lower end will be most convenient to the barn or feed troughs.

Permanent trench silos should have concrete lining of sides, ends and bottom. When properly constructed with concrete they will last many years, if given proper care. Without concrete the side and ends must be smoothed every season before silo is refilled and this process gradually enlarges the space.

As mentioned above the construction of a silo on a hillside, bluff or natural ditch simplifies drainage, removing the dirt and removing the sillage by not having to pull up a grade. By proper drainage a number of problems are simplified.

#### V.

##### Stage of cutting the feed and what feed may be used in filling the silo.

1. The grain sorghums or hogari, Darso, milo kafir, sweet sorghum, red top and so forth.
2. The hard dough stage is the best stage to cut the feed for good silage.

#### VI.

##### Filling the Trench:

The silage is sometimes cut with an ensilage cutter or feed cutter and is sometimes put in the silo without cutting. The advantage of putting food in the silo uncut is the saving of the cost of cutting, although it takes a little more labor to get uncut silage out of the silo. There is little difference in the amount of spoilage with cut and uncut silage if



the bands are cut on the bundles, the bundles laid lengthwise in the trench and packed thoroughly during the filling process. The silage may be packed as it is put in by driving horses or running a tractor over it. Special care should be taken in placing or scattering the silage, especially at the walls. Silage cannot be packed too much.

Plenty of water should be used in filling a trench silo, especially next to the walls if the dirt is dry. Each layer of silage should be wetted down. More water must be used if the feed is dry or partially dry, than if it is green and juicy. It is well to put as much as a barrel of water to each ton of silage, and if the feed is very dry, four or five times as much may be required. The trench should be well filled and packed to ground level and then well rounded over with ensilage -- see illustration.

## VII.

### Covering the silage.

The most common method of covering the silage is to put about 12 inches of dirt over it. The use of dirt for a covering has no serious objections as it can be put on easily with a fresno. Unless the dirt is moist, it should be wetted as soon as it is put on, and should be kept wet for several days. The heat from the silage will cause the dirt to dry out and crack thus causing spoilage if it is not kept moist.

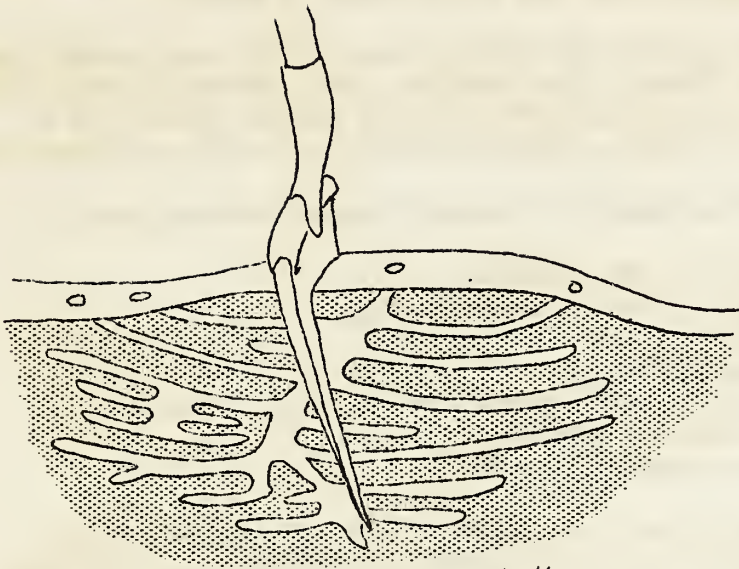
If any sort of vegetation is placed between the silage and a dirt cover it should be green or if not it should be thoroughly wetted. Dry straw or vegetation placed next to the silage will likely cause more harm than good. Watch for cracks in the dirt covering and keep them filled.

Accompanying this article are several illustrations showing trench silo sections which give the reader some idea relative to construction. Attention is called to the rounding up of the silage on top of the trench before placing the dirt cover on it. Also, the drainage of surface water away from the silo.

Any farmer in the Elm Creek area who wishes further information relative to any of the phases in trench silo construction may receive this information by contacting the Soil Conservation office. Parties located out of the Elm Creek area may receive further information from their County Agent or teachers of Vocational Agriculture. The Extension Service will be glad to send you bulletins on the subject. The Soil Conservation Service will furnish a fresno for silo building if fresnos are available at the time they are requested.



# ERADICATION OF RED ANTS



*Section through Ant-hill  
(Blade cutting all passages)*



Mixture: 1 oz. Sodium Cyanide to 1 gallon of water.

Necessary tools: 1 spade, 1 bucket or container.

Method of application: Shove spade well into ant hill near runways, then shove forward on handle end of spade. Pour a cupful or more of solution in opening back of spade blade, remove spade and cover opening with dirt. Dirt should be firmly patted down with spade blade after opening is closed. Repeat operation until the ant hill has been well broken up. One application usually will kill all of the ants. However, if all ants are not killed, the operation may be repeated after a few days time.

Extreme caution should be exercised in using sodium cyanide as it creates a deadly gas and is very poisonous. When applying solution always use gloves and stand on windward side.

Sodium cyanide can be obtained in 1 ounce capsules or "eggs" that are much safer to handle than in bulk powder.

## SELECTING SEED FROM GRAIN SORGHUMS AND SWEET SORGHUMS

Good seed is one of the chief factors in the production of large crop yields. Therefore, care must be exercised in selecting the seed. Poor, off type, low yielding heads are always present, and the seed from such heads will be sown if the bulk grain thrashed from the entire crop is used.

Select the heads which in size and shape, color of the seed cover, and size and color of the seed are true to the variety. The unusually large off-type heads which always can be found in grain sorghum fields should not be gathered for seed. They are off type, hybrids usually, and will not breed true.

The main points to observe in making head selections are:

1. Uniformity in height of the plants.
2. Uniformity in shape and size of the heads.
3. Uniformity in ripening.
4. Uniformity in productiveness.
5. That the heads be well filled with seed from top to bottom as well as into the center of the head.
6. Free from diseases, especially smut.

The heads should be cut at the time the grain is in the hard dough stage. After cutting the heads they may be spread out on shed or barn roof to dry. Under favorable weather conditions heads cut in the hard dough stage will dry out enough to thresh in seven to ten days. The heads should not be threshed until the grain feels dry when held in the hand.

The threshed grain should be as free from cracked kernels and foreign material as it is possible to make it. The ordinary grain separator has long been used for thrashing grain sorghums. If cut heads are to be threshed in the ordinary grain separator the cylinder speed should be reduced to about two-thirds or one-half that necessary for threshing wheat. In making the above mentioned change for cylinder speed, other adjustments in the separator will also be necessary. Men who operate threshing machines are thoroughly familiar with the various adjustments on their particular separator. With proper adjustments the grain may be threshed with very few cracked kernels.

In some instances it may be desirable to thrash planting seed by hand on a washboard to prevent the seed from cracking, or with a hand-thresher.

Regardless of the way in which the seeds are threshed they should be stored in a dry place away from rats.

## Harvesting Hubam Clover Seed

Cooperators in the Elm Creek Watershed who have Hubam Clover are asking the question, "How am I going to save my clover seed?" The time to cut the clover for seed is when all of the seed stem is yellow except about an inch on the tip. This tip should still be green at the time the clover is cut.

The cutting can be done satisfactorily with a small grain binder. The cutting should be done in the early morning while there is enough moisture on the plants to prevent excess shattering of the seed. The bundles should be shocked just as oats or any other small grain is shocked and allowed to cure in the shock from two to three weeks before thrashing.



Thrashing can be done in the same manner in which millet is thrashed. If the thrashing is done in the early morning, and wagon sheets used in the wagonbeds while hauling the bundles to the thrasher a great amount of the shattered seed will be saved. A sheet should also be placed under the separator while thrashing to catch the seed that may sift out.

#### MORE HELP FOR WEEDY PASTURES

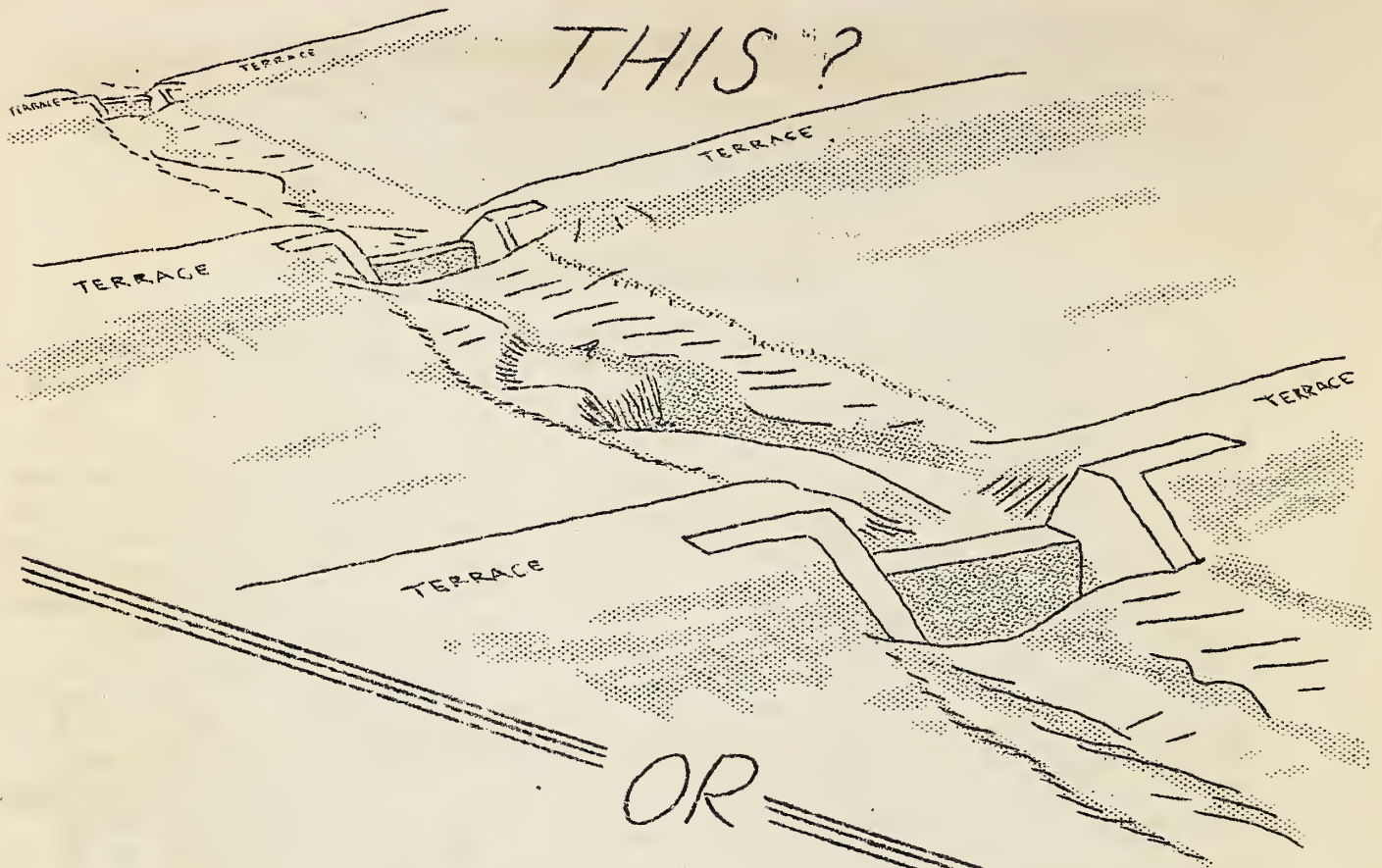
Another month of heavy rains has passed and with it an unequalled growth of woods. Woods this year are taller, heavier, and thicker than ever before. They are particularly bad in new pasture, as well as in all old ones. There is only one way in which to combat them and that is by mowing at the earliest possible date. The number of mowing machines which the Soil Conservation Service has available is hopelessly inadequate. We must face the fact that where cooperators have machines, or can borrow one from a neighbor, they should do so. We have so many requests for machines that we cannot possibly get around to more than a small portion. To help out this situation we have secured a number of wood bars which we can attach to either McCormick-Deering or John Deere mowers. These are heavier than the regular grain bars, do not clog up, and will handle extra heavy woods and light brush. We will remove the grain bar on your own machine and install one of these new bars. All that we ask is that you sign a receipt in which you agree to return the bar at a later date and that you will mow your pasture from time to time. We will make all replacements on the bar which we install. By letting us do this you will have the use of your own machine on your own farm to use when it is convenient for you to do so and not have to wait for one of our machines. These bars are in stock now. Just call or drop us a line. We will do the rest. Remember, first come, first served.

It is evident that many cooperators do not fully realize the importance of mowing pastures. On pastures which were newly sodded this spring, woods, especially sun-flowers, are so tall and rank that they are crowding and shading out the grasses. If something is not done soon, these plantings will be a total loss. One farmer recently told us he wanted to plow up the pasture we had sodded for him as there was no grass left and that the woods were taking the place. He wanted to plant some other crop on the area. An examination showed that almost all of the grass was growing but naturally, it was under a handicap due to wood competition. Cutting the woods just one time is all that is needed. This situation is present on a great many pastures. We cannot urge upon cooperators too strongly that they must be willing to do their part and cooperate with us in establishing these pastures. To get a good stand of grasses is very difficult. It always takes time and effort. Sitting back and letting "George do it" will never do the trick.

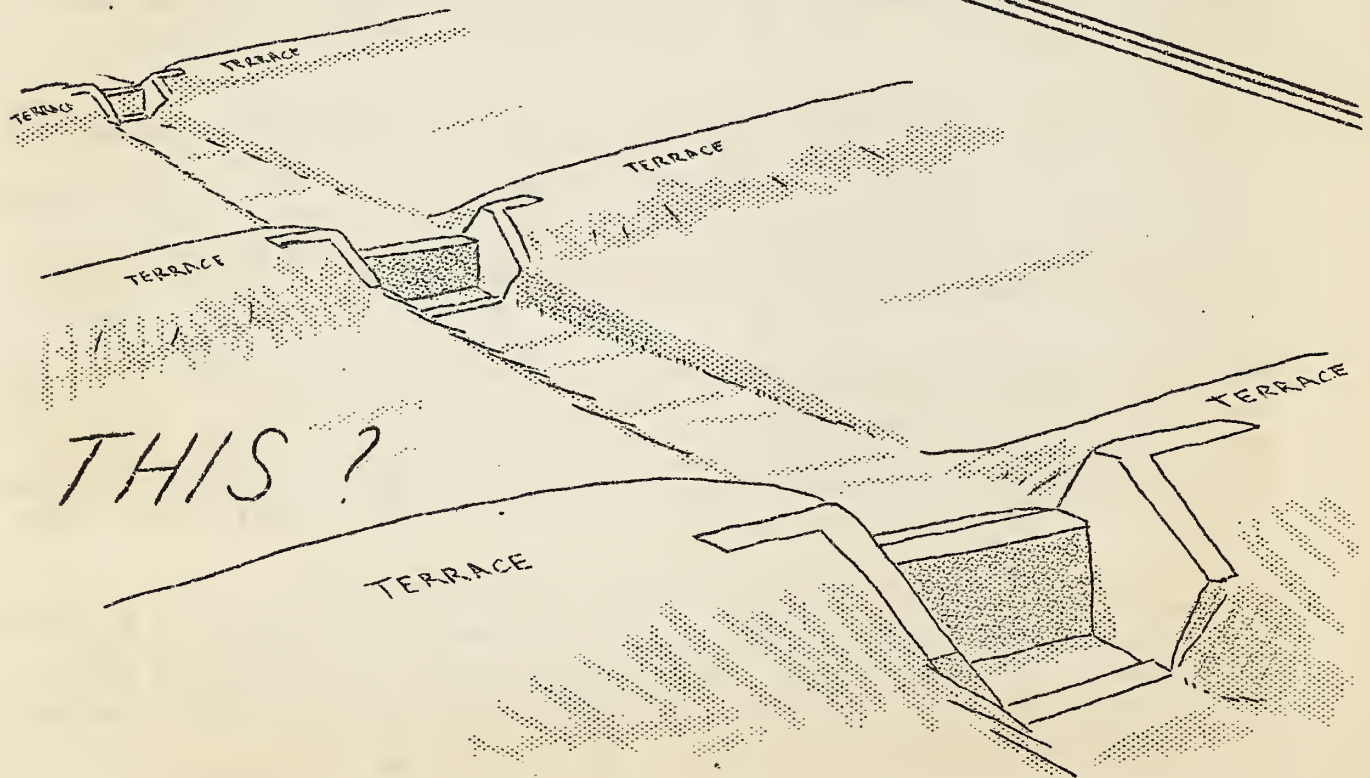
Many cooperators say they are too busy plowing cotton to mow their pastures. These men should bear in mind that one day's absence from their cotton field will have no effect on their cotton yield, while a day spent in mowing their pasture will have an appreciable effect on the growth of their pasture grasses. A good pasture is an asset at any time. It will cut down your feed bill and help keep your livestock in good shape. Why not help us to help you?

DOES YOUR TERRACE OUTLET DITCH LOOK LIKE

THIS?



THIS?



THIS is the way you agreed to and should build it  
(See opposite page)



HAVE YOU DONE YOUR PART?

Cooperator's Share of Work

Completion and Maintenance of terraces, terrace fills and outlet ditches.

After the recent rains, what are the answers to the following questions for your farm?

Were any of your terraces over-topped?

If so, had you built them to the standard 18" settled height?

Or, had you completed your fills across the low places?

All of the terrace over-topping that occurred during the recent rains was due to incompleting terraces, low fills or high places at the terrace outlets. Where these conditions did not exist, the terrace systems worked splendidly.

- - - -

Did your terrace outlet ditch wash any?

If so, was your ditch "step-cut" between the structures as shown on the lower half of the preceding page?

Where the outlet ditches were "step-cut" between the lip of the apron on the upper structure and the crest of the spillway on the next one below, there was little washing and no trouble with the ditch. This step-cutting can be done with a Fresno, slip, or may be done by plowing the full width of the ditch between the structure after each rain. Your ditch will work very satisfactorily if prepared in this manner.

- - - -

Do you think your terrace outlet structures are too low?

If so, are your terraces completed to the required 18" settled height?

Your structures which have a notch depth of 18" are laid out so that the crest of the spillway will be level with the terrace channel after the terraces are completed according to specifications. It is also possible that there is a high place in your terrace channel at the outlet which was caused by pulling the grader out of the ground in turning around. This high spot should be cut out and the outlet will work as designed. Both of these conditions will cause washing in your terrace outlets until you have corrected them, and they will make your spillways appear low.

- - - -

Perpetual motion will never be realized--neither will man-made construction ever exist permanently without continued maintenance.

ARE YOUR TERRACES HIGH ENOUGH?

(An Every-day Illustration)

When you fed the pigs this morning, did you pour the slop into the trough all at one time, or did you pour it in slowly so that the pigs could drink it out, and the trough would not run over?

You poured the slop in slowly so that the pigs could drink it without the trough spilling over.

Your terraces compare with the trough in which you fed the pigs. If you had not controlled the rate of pouring, the pigs could not have drunk it fast enough and the trough would have run over.

You can not control the rate at which rain falls on your terraced land. For this reason your terraces must be built to specifications of 18 inches settled height and 24 feet base width, so that they will be large enough to carry away the maximum runoff water without running over.

There has been a lot of rain in the last two months, but this rain has all fallen slowly compared with rains that have occurred quite often in the past. Your terraces as they now are might have worked well during these slow falling rains, but this does not mean that they are large enough.

Records show that for a ten minute period during the rains of May and June there was no rain that fell as fast as 3 inches in an hour over the entire watershed. A long time rainfall record which has been kept for 31 years at Taylor shows that for a ten minute period we will have an average of one rain each year that falls as fast as 4 inches in one hour, one rain in two years that falls as fast as 4.5 inches in one hour, and one rain in five years that falls as fast as 5.5 inches in one hour.

For this reason, if your terraces will only carry water pouring into them at a rate of 3 inches per hour, they will be broken over an average of once a year.

To save tedious repair work later, you should build your terraces to specifications, now.

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Director Bennett, who has spent his lifetime studying soil erosion and its effects, closed his warning to the Ohio Valley Farmers by saying:

"We have been living in a fool's paradise with respect to our conceptions regarding the security of our agricultural lands, and for this reason we have begun only recently to see the light with sufficient clearness to get under way these methods of land protection which should have been started seventy-five or a hundred years ago."

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VISITORS

May 1 to June 25, 1935.

15 farmers from Luling, Lockhart, Creedmor, and Kyle.

A.S. Goss, Land Bank Commissioner, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D.C.

G.B. Riley, Information Agent, Farm Credit Administration, Houston, Texas.

Tully C. Garner, Production Credit Corp., Farm Credit Adm., Houston, Texas.

Dwight P. Reordan, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Farm Credit Adm., Houston, Tex.

J.H. Scarborough, Federal Land Bank, New Orleans, La.

J.C. Roak, ECW Representative, 8th Corps Area, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

C.V. Robinson, County Agent, Colomah, Texas.

W.P. Graham, County Agent, Lampasas, Texas.

C.F. Izzard, Bureau of Public Roads, Austin, Texas.

D.M. Russell, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Millsap, Texas.

Binen R. Galbraith, Surgeon, West Texas District, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

E.A. Miller, Extension Agronomist, College Station, Texas.

C.M. Harvin, Federal Land Bank, Houston, Texas.

Dane G. Coe, Agriculturist, Baton Rouge, La.

E.L. Bentner, Erosion Specialist, Safford, Arizona.

F.L. Short, Agricultural Engineer, Safford, Arizona.

L.L. Williams, City Manager, Crystal City, Texas.

S.E. Jones, Entomologist, Texas Experiment Station, Winterhaven, Texas.

11 farmers and business men from McGregor, Texas.

7 farmers from Frost, Texas.

I.E. Miles, Dan Houghton, R.R. Herring, L.O. Strange, and J.E. Gates, Agronomists, Meridian, Miss.

J.D. Motley, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Ballinger, Texas.

T.D. Coupland, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Winters, Texas.

Elmo V. Cook, County Agent, Ballinger, Texas.

P.M. Cox, Bartlett, Texas.

W.F. Sharp, Davilla, Texas.

Capt. Ed Wadden, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

T.P. Priddien, Jr., Federal Int. Credit Bank, Houston, Texas.

Evans Adkins, County Judge, McCullough County, Texas.

J.D. Prewitt, County Agent, Brady, Texas.

Carl A. Blasig, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Brady, Texas.

Ben H. Jonson and G.C. Williams, Runge, Texas.

Hollis G. Smith, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Karnes City, Texas.

Ray D. Kinnard, S.C.S., Soils Department, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

F.C. Wolf, C.M. Knight, and W.R. Moore, Clarksville, Texas.

17 farmers and business men from Hamilton, Texas, with C.E. Nelson, County Agent, Hamilton County.

L.L. Johnson, County Agent, Gainesville, Texas.

E.C. Haynes, Gainesville, Texas.

B.H. Hendrickson, Supt., Erosion Station, Tyler, Texas.

F.F. Bibby, Entomologist, College Station, Texas.

T.G. Caudle, Vocational Agriculture Teacher, Mesquite, Texas, and 12 farmers and business men.

James V. Allred, Governor of Texas, Austin, Texas.

W.R. Darrow, AAA Representative, College Station, Texas.

C.H. Colvin, San Antonio, Texas.

Earnest V. Frederick and L.T. Eagles, Agronomists, Washington, D. C.

L.B. Scott, Shreveport, Louisiana.

J.L. Pelham, Robson, Louisiana.



VISITORS (Continued)

L.S. Paine, V. Payne, J.E. Oliver, and J.L. Gerloff, College Station, Texas.  
O.W. Stone, and C.A. Andrews, Wolfe City, Texas.  
Myke Klein and O.H. Walters, Schulenburg, Texas.  
R.W. Miller, Mayor, Bartlett, Texas, and 5 farmers.  
A.A. Storey, County Agent, Floresville, Texas, and 3 business men.  
R.B. Cleveland, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Garland, Texas, with a group  
of 64 farmers and business men.

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G.C. & S.F. HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION  
Temple, Texas

June 3, 1935

Soil Conservation Service  
Temple, Texas.

Gentlemen:

Your leaflets which I have been receiving and reading, and particularly the last one, carried so much information pertaining to the amount of soil lost when not properly cared for; to me this information was very illuminating. I am assuming that your duties are sufficient that you probably do not desire any extensive correspondence on this subject, particularly from a doctor, but I wish to take this method of assuring you that the information contained in these leaflets, particularly the last one, was well worth a doctor's time to read and I am sure it is appreciated by the landowners.

I wish to commend you for the information you are giving out regularly and assure you I would like to be kept on your mailing list, even though I have no land to conserve.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) O.F. GOBER  
Chief Physician

C O P Y



## WATCH YOUR TEMPORARY PASTURES

Temporary pastures which were seeded to Sudan grass this spring are already carrying their portion of the grazing burden. Where the seed was planted early, owners have already permitted considerable grazing and have taken a big load off their old pastures. In some cases grazing has been too heavy and the time has come when most of the livestock should be taken off for a week or ten days to give the Sudan a chance to renew its growth. We suggest that the animals be put on the permanent pastures during this period. If this is not done the capacity of the temporary pasture will be seriously cut down.

There are also some pastures on which the seed was planted late and the grass has not had a chance to grow tall enough to be grazed before livestock was put on. There are instances where livestock were run on pastures just as soon as the seed sprouted. This is a serious mistake, as such pastures will never produce enough feed to be worth while. In these cases we urge cooperators to remove their livestock at once and let the grass grow to a height of at least ten inches before the animals are returned to the temporary pasture.

Practically all of the Sudan grass planted to temporary pasture was planted in rows. In a very few cases broadcast seeding was permitted. A comparison of the two methods is overwhelmingly in favor of the row plantings. The broadcast seedings, where heavily grazed, are badly trampled and will not produce nearly so much good, clean, and easily accessible grazing as the row seeding.

Since the grazing season for temporary pastures is just getting under way, and as these pastures will continue to produce heavily for several weeks, we cannot urge cooperators too strongly to follow out the above suggestions.

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### GOVERNOR ALLRED SHUCKS OFF COAT AND TAKES ELM CREEK WATERSHED TRIP

#### Praises Work Under Way in SCS Project

James V. Allred, Governor of Texas, shucked off his coat and went to the country to look over the soil erosion control work of the Elm Creek Watershed.

"Marvelous", exclaimed Governor Allred as he viewed the terraced fields where the march of soil-destroying waters had been halted.

"This is the greatest material demonstration being made in Texas today", he declared.

The Governor recalled that the wasted acres reminded him of the run-down acres in his home counties and expressed a desire that a more widespread program of soil conservation should be put into practice.





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SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BIM CREEK WATERSHED---CENTRAL TEXAS  
NEWS LETTER----- NO. 13  
TEMPLE, TEXAS JUNE ,1935